

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. T-922

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic

and/or common William F. Seymour house

**2. Location**

street & number Royal Oak Road    not for publication

city, town Royal Oak    vicinity of congressional district 2

state Maryland county Talbot

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture <u>  </u> museum
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial <u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational <u>X</u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment <u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government <u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial <u>  </u> transportation
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military <u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Kenneth A. Longenecker

street & number Rt. 329 telephone no.:

city, town Royal Oak state and zip code MD 21662

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Courthouse liber 633

street & number folio 59

city, town Easton state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title

date    federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved      date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The William F. Seymour house is the third building located on the south side of Royal Oak Road from its intersection with Bellevue Road in Royal Oak, Talbot County, Maryland. The house faces north, with the principle gable oriented on an east/west axis.

This three bay, two-and-a-half story frame structure is sheathed in cream weatherboard and roofed with asphalt shingles. The foundation consists of cement blocks cast to look like chisled stone. The house is finished with cornerboards.

The north (main) elevation has a full-width porch with turned supports and decorative brackets which rest on a wooden platform. A single light over three panel door with wide, white trim serves as the central bay flanked on either side by one two-over-two sash window with wide, white surrounds and green paneled shutters. The second floor is lit by three of the same two-over-two sash windows with shutters. A central cross gable breaks the roofline and is lit by one small two-over-two sash window with a rounded upper sash. An interior brick chimney rises from the center of the house and the wide roof overhang on this elevation has exposed rafter feet.

The east elevation is a gable end with a three-sided, projecting bay window lit by two-over-two sash windows with wide surrounds on the first floor and one two-over-two sash window with wide surrounds and green paneled shutters on the second floor. A two-story, gable roof addition extends to the west of this gable end lit on the first floor by a projecting two-light window and on the second floor by one two-over-two sash window with wide surrounds and green paneled shutters.

The south elevation has a gable end as its eastern most bay lit by a single light window on the first floor and a one-over-one sash window on the second floor with wide surrounds and green paneled shutters. A small, gable roof addition projects from the first floor pierced by a batten door on this west side. The western bay of this elevation is a two-story, gable roof addition pierced by one nine-light over two-panel door and a pair of french doors which open onto a wooden deck on the first floor. The second floor is lit by a bay of three modern windows with a half round window centered above.

## 8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

### Specific dates

### Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☒ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

William F. Seymour and his wife Annie purchased this property from Eva M. and William L. Myers in 1914. Although William F. Seymour conducted his grocery business in Royal Oak until the 1950s, he and his wife only lived in this house until 1924. In 1924 Mary E. Burrows purchased the house which was inherited by her three children in 1929: Norman Claude Benson, Joseph Marion Benson, and Rosa Benson.

In 1929 these heirs sold the property to Marion C. and Barbara Roe. The Roes owned this property until 1973 when they sold it to Francies M. Longenecker.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. T-922

Leonard, Bernice. Twig and Turf III: The Royal Oak.  
Decorah, Iowa: Anundsen Publishing Company, 1985.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Elizabeth Hughes, Architectural Historian

organization Talbot County Historic Preservation Commission date 12/31/91

street &amp; number telephone

city or town Easton state MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

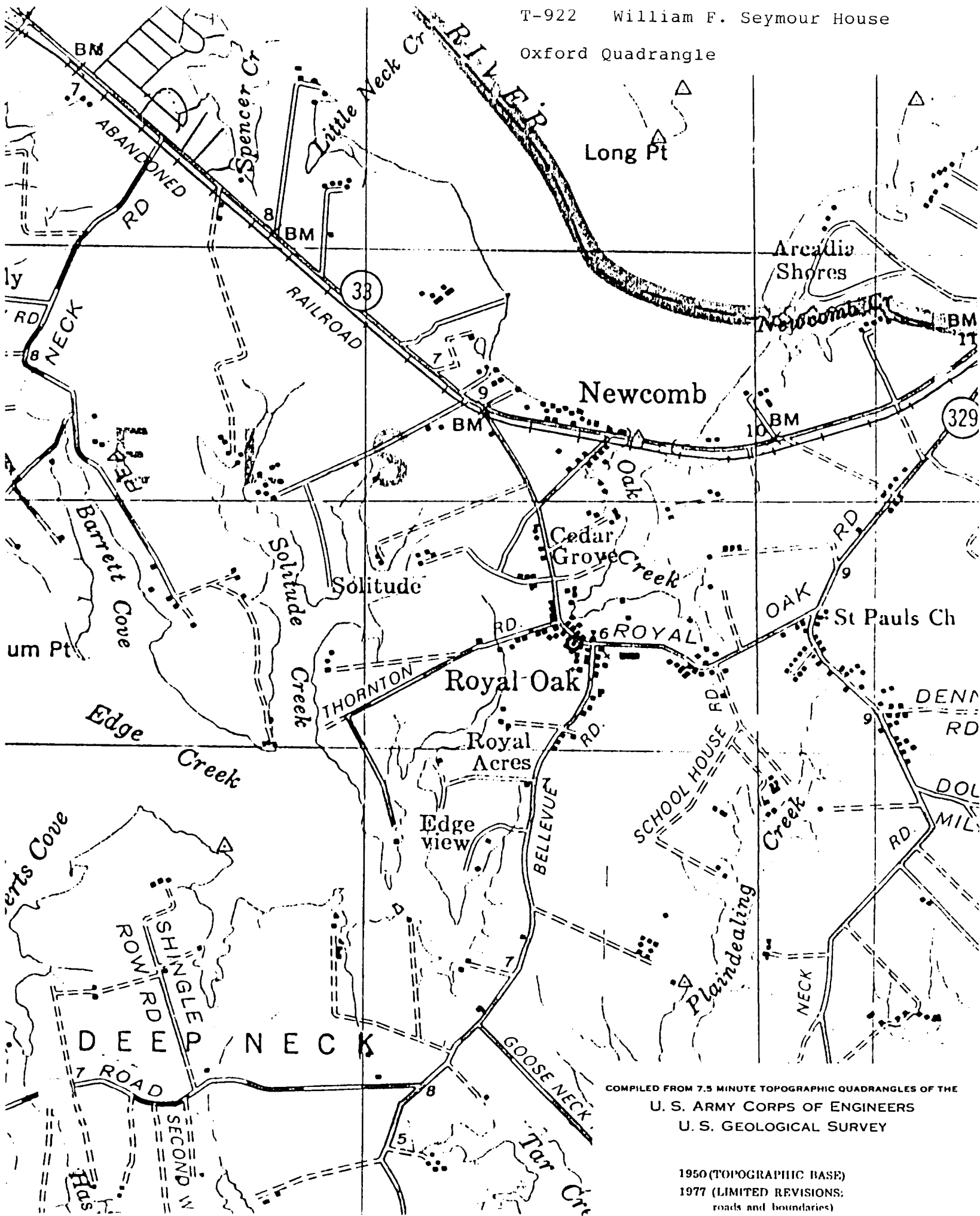
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCE  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2028  
301-514-7600

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William F. Seymour house Description cont'd.

The west elevation has the gable end of the house's main body as its southern most bay. This wing has a centered, two-story, square projection covered in new weatherboard flanked on either side by a one-over-one sash window with wide surrounds and green paneled shutters on the first and second floors. The two-story addition which extends to the south is lit on the first floor by two one-over-one sash windows with green, paneled shutters and on the second floor by two six-over-six sash windows.

A path lined with boxwood bushes leads from Royal Oak Road to the house's entrance door. A gravel drive extends from the road along the north side of the house to the long rear yard of the property. One modern board and batten barn like structure roofed with tin and lit with three-over-one sash windows sits in the rear yard. The current owners keep goats.



COMPILED FROM 7.5 MINUTE TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES OF THE  
U. S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1950 (TOPOGRAPHIC BASE)  
1977 (LIMITED REVISIONS:  
roads and boundaries)



T-922

WILLIAM

F. SEYMOUR

HOUSE

NW ELEVATION